

FOREST Heights NEWS



Town of Forest Heights
Prince George's County, Maryland

We Work Together

Sue E. McGinnis
MAYOR

COUNCIL

Derek V. Bennett
Jerome K. Corrigan
Quincy Hines
Anne K. Reifsnieder
George F. Wiggers
Paula Noble

Michelle E. Dyer, Editor

49th Year, Issue No. 13

March 15, 2002

MAYOR'S MESSAGE



Sue E. McGinnis
Mayor

Dear Neighbors,

Knowledge is power and on Wednesday, March 20, 2002 we will honor the following students who were selected as winners of our "First Annual Black History Essay Contest: Ms. LaKida Harris, Ms. Candice Jeffrey, Ms. Candace Paulk and Ms. Shuanda Hinnant. At that time I will present each child with a \$250.00 Savings Bond. The Awards Dinner will begin promptly at 7:30pm at 5508 Arapahoe Drive, Forest Heights, MD. It is our endeavor to motivate and reward the children who attend the Town's two elementary schools, Forest Heights and Flintstone in their quest for

academic excellence. Our guest speaker will be Prince George's County Schools Superintendent Iris Metts. Everyone is welcome. Please come out and support our youth. Menu: Chicken Wings, Swedish Meatballs, Potato Salad, and Stringbeans, Cake and Punch

- I also would like to update the Community on a number of projects and meetings I have been attending to improve services in Town.
- On February 19, 2002 I met with Maryland Highway Administration about the safety of our youth having to cross MD 210. Flashing Yellow Lights will be installed at Talbert Drive and MD 210 on March 20, 2002.
- I met with the Commander of District IV in Eastover Shopping Center to discuss how

we can work together to reduce crime in our community.

- On March 5, 2002 I met with Talbert Drive Construction engineers to review the new street design. Construction is scheduled to start June 2002 after school closes.
 - On March 8, 2002 I met with Robert Douglas, Director of the Woodrow Wilson Project about compensation for the Town for acquiring houses.
At Your Service,
Mayor Sue McGinnis
-
- Awards Dinner
Special Ceremony
Congratulations to
Candace Paulk, Candice
Jeffrey, LaKida Harris
and Shuanda Hinnant the
Winners of the \$250.00
Student Black History
Essay**

THIS MONTH'S TOWN MEETING WILL BE AN AWARDS DINNER FOR YOUTH MARCH 20, 2002 AT 7:00PM . THE GUEST SPEAKER IS, P.G. COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT, MRS. IRIS METTS.

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Council Members

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(301) 839-4040
Michelle E. Dyer – Town Clerk
(301) 839-1030
William Clarke – Maintenance Supervisor
(301) 686-1432

IN TOWN

Town Meetings are always held on the third Wednesday during the months of September through June. Mayor/Council Work Sessions are held on the first Monday (Tuesdays when Mondays are holidays or as

absolutely necessary) of the month approximately two weeks prior to Town Meetings. Meetings are open to the public and we greatly encourage your participation. The next Council Work Session will be April 1, 2002.

WARD II RESIDENTS

Council Members Corrigan and Reifsneider of Ward II invites you and your neighbors to attend an open meeting to be held at the Municipal Building on Tuesday, March 26, 2002 at 10:00am OR 7:00pm. Please join us so that we may get acquainted and bring your questions and concerns for a discussion with reference to your needs and Town interests. We want to help you but if you do not advise us of your problems we cannot assist you.

Thank you,

**ELECTION INFORMATION
FILING DEADLINE FOR
CANDIDATES IS APRIL 3,
2002**

Forest Heights residents who plan to be CANDIDATES for the office Town Council Member in the coming Town election are reminded that they must file a Certificate of Nomination at the Administrative Office at 5508 Arapahoe Drive, on or before Wednesday, April 3, 2002. Filing of such a Certificate constitutes a filing for office provided the candidate is otherwise qualified. The Town Charter provides that all candidates shall have resided in the Town for at least one year immediately preceding the election, shall be qualified voters of the Town and shall maintain a permanent residence in the Town during their term in office. Candidates for Town Council Member may seek office only in the Ward in which they reside and shall have resided in that

Ward for at least one year preceding the Town Election. **THOSE ELECTED OFFICIALS WHOSE TERM EXPIRES IN MAY ARE: COUNCILMEMBERS: WARD I-GEORGE WIGGERS, WARDII-JEROME CORRIGAN, WARDIII – PAULA NOBLE**

CANDIDATES STATEMENTS
Candidates in the MAY 2002 TOWN ELECTION **MUST** have their statements for the APRIL NEWSLETTER to the TOWN CLERK by APRIL 5, 2002

VOTER REGISTRATION
Every person who is a citizen of the United States, is at least 18 years of age (or will be at the time of the Town Election), and has been a bonafide resident of the Town for at least 30 days at the time of the election, is qualified to register in Prince George's County, Maryland, with the Board of Elections Supervisor. Only those who are registered voters will be eligible to vote or to run for office in the Town Election.

Deadline to REGISTER for Forest Heights Town Election is April 12, 2002 Registration forms are available at the P.G. County Library or at the Forest Heights Municipal Building.



Our Town Commitment
WHEREAS, the National League of Cities is committed to promoting racial equality and justice as a fundamental aspect of a healthy community **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor of Forest Heights and Town Council of Forest Heights reaffirm our commitment to ensuring racial equality and justice in our city and to working with the National League of Cities to sustain this commitment throughout the country.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

The Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988: "We Do Business in Accordance With the Federal Fair Housing Law" Urban Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing: 1-800-669-9777.

2001 INCOME TAX REMINDER

We ask you once again to assist us in making sure that the Town receive as much income as we can possibly get from the State and from the County. Please make sure you do the following two things: (1) Make sure your car registration lists Forest Heights as the town in which you reside—NOT

Oxon Hill. This will ensure that we get our proper tax from the State. (2) Make sure that on your State Income Tax form you specify that the Incorporated Municipality in which you live is Forest Heights. This will also ensure that we get our proper share of your Income Tax back from the State.

TRASH REMOVAL

SERVICES BIDS
Open January 1, 2002 through April 1, 2002
Request for Proposals
Forest Heights-

The Town of Forest Heights is seeking bids for Trash Collection Services. Contractor will be responsible for picking up town resident's weekly trash, bulk items and leaves placed curbside. For more information contact Forest Heights Municipal Center at (301) 839-1030.

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Town Trash Collection

Your cooperation with Town ordinances for disposing of residential trash is important for

maintaining health and property values in the Town. The Town trash contractor collects trash on Mondays and Thursday (except holidays). The County also collects recyclable materials in the Town on Mondays (plastics, newspapers, etc.) Trash should be placed within two feet of the curb line. It is important to use trash containers with lids. Rats and other animals will open garbage left in plastic bags. Public Works has a 24-hour answering machine. They can be reached at (301) 686-1432

BULKY TRASH COLLECTION

The Town Public Works Department will collect items not normally collected by your regular trash contractor such as stoves, tires, refrigerators (w/o door), washing machines, water tanks and similar items. The cost to remove bulky trash is \$35.00 per item. Construction Hazardous and poisonous materials will not be collected. For information on proper disposal of hazardous waste call 883-5045. Items to be collected must be placed at the curb by 7:00 a.m. If you have additional questions regarding bulky trash pick-up, please call 301-839-1030.

The Maintenance Department

Would like to congratulate the residents of Pitt Lane. They were the only Street

in the entire town who parked all their vehicles on the lighted side of the street. This makes the snow plow crew having an easier and safer time plowing the street during the snowfall. Keep it up Bill Clarke – Maintenance Supervisor

SCIENCE OF SPRING
 Wakeup! Wake up! Spring is here! If you've been feeling more frisky lately, blame the season. It's spring, nature is kicking up it's heels and waking flowers, weather and people, days are getting longer, temperatures are warming and spring air is drifting in. Leaf and flower buds appear on those trees that lost their leaves in the fall. Bulbs sprout and pop through the earth bringing the first flowers, usually the bright yellow Daffodils. What a welcome sight after the long cold gray days and nights with the wind rattling windows, banging doors, shrieking, blowing, twisting and swirling. A new season is breaking, summer is just around the corner and you will be looking forward to the vacation that you have been dreaming about all winter.

Thought: *My idea of housework is to sweep the room with a glance.*

**FOREST HEIGHTS
 HOME MAKERS**

Police Chief Update

Crime Reports

February 1, 2002 through February 28, 2002

- Robbery.....1
- Assaults... ..1
- Vandalism.....2
- Breaking entering.....1
- Larceny /Theft.....1
- Stolen Motor Vehicles... 0
- Recovered Motor Vehicles.....1
- Calls for Service.....109
- Eastover District IV Police-- (301) 749-4900
- Maryland Park Police--- (301) 459-9088

Pinochle: Players meet at the Municipal Building every Friday evening at 7:00 p.m.

We want to hear from you. Please send your comments, questions and ideas for this newsletter to Town Hall at 5508 Arapahoe Drive, Forest Heights, MD 20745 or fax (301) 686-0014.

EMPLOYMENT

Town Treasurer - the Town of Forest Heights is seeking applicants for a part-time position of Treasurer. This position will require you to work very closely with the Mayor. Attend State and County Finance and Grant Meetings. Research and write Grants. Maintain Mayor's Calendar. This position serves as the Financial Officer of the Town and reports to the

Mayor and Council for a wide range of financial and administrative duties. Duties include the preparation of annual operating and capital budgets; preparation of annual financial and interim management reports; collection and disbursement of municipal funds; operation of a general accounting and billing system; and management of the Town's investment portfolio. Candidates should possess a B.S. Degree. The successful candidate will possess excellent supervisory, teamwork, communication, and analytical and writing skills. Salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications. If you are interested, please mail, fax or drop-off a cover letter and resume by 4:00 p.m. April 24, 2002 to Sue E. McGinnis, Mayor, Town of Forest Heights, 5508 Arapahoe Drive, Forest Heights, Md. 20785, phone 301-839-1030; fax 301-839-9236. An Equal Opportunity Employer.

Deadline to submit articles for the April 2002 issue of the Newsletter is April 1, 2002. Articles are to be turned in or mailed to the

Municipal Building at 5508 Arapahoe Drive, Forest Heights, MD 20745